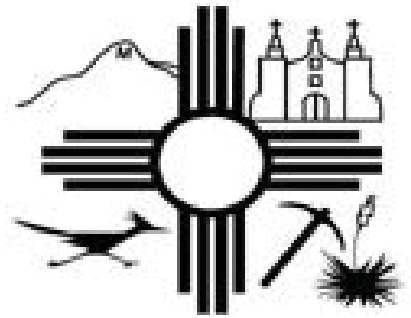


# City of Socorro

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## Economic Development is for the Birds...

The sandhill cranes are starting to arrive in the Rio Grande valley and it won't be long before the tourists and birdwatchers arrive as well.

A recent survey by the USGS showed that over the course of a year more than 100,000 visits are made to the Bosque. During the peak birding season (October through February), visitors tend to stay about 2 days and spend \$72/day, resulting in \$1.8 million in direct income for Socorro County.

The 24th annual Festival of the Cranes happens November 15-20 this year. It features over 110 workshops, tours, hikes, demonstrations and outdoor activities to educate, entertain, and interest community members and tourists alike. The Friends of the Bosque, the Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, the City of Socorro, and the Socorro Chamber of Commerce collaborate every year to put together this birding extravaganza. For the Friends and the Bosque it is an education event that they hope will break even. For the City and the Chamber it is an opportunity to bring in tourists and their dollars.

### Employee Anniversaries

**Guadalupe Tarango**

**5 years**

## ...and Perhaps the Horses

Perhaps horses could have similar economic impact. The new rodeo grounds and arena under construction between Highway 60 and the Fairgrounds represent an opportunity to draw in rodeo riders and their families from around the state and country making Socorro a significant stop on the rodeo circuit. The City owns the land on which the rodeo grounds are being developed. Funding comes from lodgers' tax and grant monies. Soccer fields are also part of the package creating yet another tourism opportunity. Quality rodeo and soccer facilities in a central location in the state have the potential to attract sporting events and their dollars to our community.



## Winter Farmers Market

The winter market will be open every Saturday morning beginning November 5, from 9:00 am to sell out. The market is located in the Socorro Community Kitchen, across the parking lot from the Police Station (just south of Finley gym).

### City Council

Mary Ann Chavez-Lopez  
Gordy Hicks  
Donald Monette  
Ernest Pargas, Jr.  
Ravi Bhasker, Mayor

Nick Fleming  
Toby Jaramillo  
Michael Olguin, Jr.  
Peter D. Romero  
Pat Salome, Clerk